



HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY: Make your environment safer by bringing your batteries, cleaners, oils, paints, solvents, poisons, gasoline, pesticides, antifreeze, mercury thermometers, thermostats and fluorescent bulbs to the town garage from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. **AUGUST 25.** Items not accepted include tires, appliances, ammunition, explosives, medical/radioactive wastes, asbestos, 30-gallon or larger containers. **INFO:** Call (219) 972-5083.

GAZEBOEXPRESS

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENT SOURCE FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND • AUGUST 2018



FIRST SENIOR HOUSING COMING TO HIGHLAND

Town officials are celebrating another large-scale construction project on deck to transform southeast Highland.

Iowa-based Russell Group has unveiled plans to construct a four-story senior living development north of Ernie Strack Drive.

The bonus: Russell and the Town Council have agreed in principle to add a public works complex on the 20-acre site, a development the town will lease for 20 years before owning the complex outright.

“This project will be a wonderful addition to Highland and offers a tremendous opportunity for new development along North

Kennedy Avenue,” Councilman Dan Vassar said. “The town is fortunate that Russell had a clear vision for this project.”

Early discussions have centered on minimizing any impact on nearby residents.

Plans for a medical-office building have been scrapped to provide expansive green space and additional buffers. In addition, all public works vehicles will enter and exit the property via Cline Avenue.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Following Highland Plan Commission meetings this fall, groundbreaking is tentatively scheduled for spring. 🐦

ABOUT THE LAND ...

Plans to convert a long-time vegetable and flower garden into a senior housing and public works complex will have little impact on Scheeringa's Cline Avenue farmstand. Don Scheeringa, who grew up on the property, has no plans to curb any of the farmstead offerings as the family farms hundreds of acres throughout the region.

INFO: Visit highland.in.gov for updates and to take an in-depth look at the senior housing project.

HIGHLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT LAUNCHES NEW SURVEILLANCE INITIATIVE

Highland Police are inviting residents and businesses to register their video surveillance systems on a confidential database.

The program is free, voluntary and secure.

“This is a program that other police departments in the United States have been doing,” Cmdr. John Banasiak said. “We feel it is a great tool to assist our officers and investiga-

tors in following up on reported crimes.”

Only the Highland Police Department will have access to this database of registered video surveillance systems.

“We will never gain access to your security system,” he said. “The Highland Police Department will contact you to check your system should a crime occur in your vicinity.” 🐦

HOW TO REGISTER

To register your video surveillance system, please email your name, address, phone number and email address to jkoedyker@highland.in.gov.

QUESTIONS? Please call Cmdr. John Banasiak at (219) 838-3184 or email jbanasiak@highland.in.gov.

BRANCH COLLECTION

The Town of Highland provides branch collection and disposal services as a part of its solid waste management program.

There is no need to call in for a pick-up. Please refer to the enclosed branch collection insert in today's water bill for your scheduled pick-up day.

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

The Highland Police Department is accepting applications through **AUGUST 28** for its next 10-week Citizens Police Academy.

Classes are from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesdays, beginning **SEPT. 11**.

Applications are available at the police department or download one online at highlandpolice.com.

QUESTIONS? Please call Cmdr. John Banasiak at (219) 838-3184.



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NEWS TIP? STORY IDEA?

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RESPONSIVE SIGNAL HELPS PEDESTRIANS CROSS 45TH STREET AT THE BIKE PATH

Since an on-demand crossing light was installed on 45th Street at the bike trail, pedestrians, riders and skateboarders have never been safer.

The hiccup in the non-traditional traffic lighting system – known as a HAWK Beacon – is a bottleneck that occurs at the crossing whenever red lights are flashing.

The pedestrian-activated crosswalk has five phases – flashing yellow, solid yellow, solid red, flashing red and dark signal.

“The Traffic Safety Committee is concerned. We’re not having issues when the solid red light is on,” Public Works Director John Bach said. “It’s the same when the light is dark. The confusion seems to occur when the red light is flashing.”

The same traffic etiquette that applies when a red light is flashing due to a traditional signal malfunction, applies here.

“We want people to stop and ensure no pedestrians are crossing 45th Street and then go,” Bach said. “When people linger longer than they need at the flashing red light, it backs up traffic and has been causing anger among motorists, who are being inconvenienced. If everyone observes the rules, it will make it better for everyone.” 🐦



HOW DOES IT WORK?

A HAWK — High-intensity Activated crossWalk — signal is a special beacon used to control traffic and assist pedestrians crossing a busy street. When a pedestrian activates the signal, it will alert motorists as follows:

- **Flashing yellow** begins (7 seconds) warning motorists to yield.
- **Solid yellow** (4 seconds) then turns to red (3 seconds) alerting motorists to come to a complete stop.
- **Walk indication** (10 seconds) signals when it is safe for pedestrians to cross.
- **Flashing “Don’t Walk”** and **flashing red traffic signals** warn pedestrians and motorists to stay put.
- **Dark signal** allows motorists to proceed.

FESTIVAL OF THE TRAIL SHOWCASES THE ARTS

Plans are well underway for this year’s retooled Festival of the Trail, which coincides with another popular downtown event – the annual Fire Department Open House on Oct. 13.

The venue – located on Jewett Street between Kennedy Avenue and 4th Street – will feature the works of artisans and artists exclusively.

Dawn Diamantopoulos, Highland Main Street president and festival organizer, said going forward the Festival of the Trail will be an art event, featuring visual artists, their paintings, sketches, sculptures, photographs, writings and more.

“The Festival of the Trail is really shaping up,” Diamantopoulos said. “In addition to a street chock full of spectacular art, we will be featuring music at the Jewett Street mural alcove, a mini farmer’s market, food trucks and fun.” 🐦

CALLING ALL VENDORS!

Highland Main Street is still accepting applications for artists and artisans to participate in the annual Festival of the Trail.

A nonrefundable \$35 booth fee that includes the 7 percent Indiana Sales Tax is due with your application.

Your 10’ x 10’ booth will be located on Jewett between Kennedy and 4th.

WHEN: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. **OCTOBER 13**

WHERE: Jewett between Kennedy and 4th

NOTE: The festival will take place rain or shine. In case of rain, the event will be moved to Zandstra’s Farm and Greenhouse, 10202 Kennedy Ave.

INFO: Call Lance Ryskamp at (219) 972-7598 or email lryskamp@highland.in.gov.



Blessed Bounty

HIGHLAND CHURCH HELPING FAMILIES IN NEED WITH MINI FOOD PANTRY AND COMMUNITY GARDEN

First Christian Church is blessing its neighbors and anyone in need with a food pantry stocked with nonperishables and an ever-expanding community garden with produce free for the taking.

The food pantry — known as the Blessing Box — is a red and pink structure patterned in size after the Little Free Libraries. It's filled three times a week with donations of canned goods and paper products.

"We were concerned items would be sitting there too long but that hasn't been the case," the Rev. Rebecca Sundquist said. "Every time it is checked, we find the pantry is pretty well cleaned out."

Sundquist said it was the congregation's desire to pair the pantry with a community garden.

In addition to offering up juicy red tomatoes, zucchini, kale, radishes and cabbage to Highland residents, the church garden helps supply produce to clients of Greater Hammond Community Services and Love INC food pantries.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM ...

The Blessing Box was founded on the premise that anyone who passes by the mini outdoor food pantry should "take what they need and leave what they can." Donations of nonperishable items are welcome from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and Sunday mornings at the church office. Volunteers are also welcome to help with the Seeds of Hope community garden at 9540 5th St.

INFO: Call the church at (219) 924-5400.

Adding to its in-ground plantings, the congregation is experimenting with horse-trough planters. The "Taco Garden," overseen by the youth group, is ripe with ingredients for a taco dinner later this year.

"Our congregation has embraced this project," Sundquist said.

"We have been blessed with an abundance of fertile soil that we are using to bless others." 🌱



WAGNER RIBS FUND-RAISER

The Highland Elks Lodge is holding its 2nd Annual Wagner Ribs Fund-raiser. The sauced ribs — \$15 per slab — come wrapped and ready to heat and eat. Orders must be placed and paid for by **AUGUST 15** at the lodge, which accepts cash, check, Mastercard, Visa and Discover. Proceeds benefit cancer research, veterans programs and other charitable causes.

WHEN: 4 p.m. **AUGUST 23**

WHERE: Highland Elks Lodge 981, 3120 45th Street

HOURS: 11 a.m. to 10 p.m

INFO: (219) 922-8253

PRESCHOOL REUNION

The Learning Center is celebrating 30 years in Highland with an all-class reunion. TLC Director Sharon Apato and her staff invite all current and former students for family fun and good conversation. If you or your children have attended TLC over the years, please stop by!

WHEN: 1 to 4 p.m. **AUGUST 26**

WHERE: Griffith's Central Park, 698 North Broad Street

INFO: For more information, please call Danielle at (219) 801-5817.

YOU'RE NOT ALONE BENEFIT

Help support the Jonathan Wagner Benzodiazepine Awareness Foundation by attending the You're Not Alone Benefit at Wicker Park or by making a donation. Sponsored by North Township Trustee Frank Mrvan, the benefit features live entertainment by Jordans & James from 4 to 7 p.m., a silent auction as well as basket and 50/50 raffles.

WHEN: noon to 9 p.m. **AUGUST 19**

WHERE: Wicker Park Club House

TICKETS: \$12 per person includes food and two drink tickets. Purchase at eventbrite.com or at the door.

DONATIONS: Cash donations are accepted at Centier Bank in the St. John mall. To donate merchandise or gift certificates, please email yourenotalonejw44@gmail.com and we'll arrange for pickup!

LEARN MORE: Find us on Facebook @yourenotalonejw44.

MIDWEEK MUSIC & MARKET

Shop local businesses at the midweek market from 5 to 8 p.m. Grab a comfy lawn chair for the acoustical entertainment from 5 to 6:15 p.m. and the summer concert series from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Beer garden is available at all August shows. Here's the lineup:

AUG 8: Jef Sarver
Joe Marcinek Band
- Jam Band covers and originals

AUG 15: Bill Hayden
The Spaniels Forever
- Doo Wop, Oldies and Motown

AUG 22: Marco Villarreal
Stop.Drop.Rewind
- 80s, 90s and modern rock

AUG 29: Cousin Dave Neely
Capernaum
- Contemporary country and pop

WHERE: Main Square Park Gazebo

NOTE: In the event of inclement weather, concerts will be held in the Lincoln Center Fieldhouse. Please bring your own chair.

INFO: highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114

ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Register now for Parks and Recreation's fall softball league. It's a 14-game round-robin season. Rosters are limited to 20 players. Highland Parks and Recreation reserves the right to place teams in the proper division. Cash awards will be given in each division!

SEASON: Runs **SEPTEMBER 9 – NOVEMBER 1**

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

TEAM FEE: \$560 due by **AUGUST 16**

INFO: highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114

FIRST AID/CPR/AED TRAINING

Join us for this video-based, instructor-led course that teaches critical skills needed to respond to and manage a first aid, choking or sudden cardiac arrest emergency in the first few minutes until EMS arrive. Students receive a course completion card valid for two years.

WHEN: 6-8 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays,

AUGUST 7-8 and SEPT. 4-5

FEE: \$75 workplace, \$65 teachers/staff K-12

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center, Room 118

INFO: highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114

WIGGLES & GIGGLES

This class is designed for 1½- to 3-year-old toddlers who have not met many children. You and your child will enjoy age appropriate activities, stories and crafts. Children will also participate in unstructured playtime. Each parent assists with his/her child's activities.

WHEN: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, **AUGUST 20 – DECEMBER 12** (off Sept. 3 and Oct. 29)

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

FEE: \$87/\$96 1x/week, \$170/\$180 2x/week

INFO: highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114



last call for ...
SUMMER

The sultriest days of summer will be the setting for Highland's newest downtown festival - Last Call for Summer. The last hurrah before school starts, the event features original local music, food from Highland restaurants and a beer garden operated by 95ate5 Brew Pub.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11
1 PM TO 6 PM AT ... MAIN SQUARE PARK

BREWERIES	RESTAURANTS	ENTERTAINMENT
• Byway	• Beer Geeks	1 p.m. - Chris Peters
• Devil's Trumpet	• Jose's Family Restaurant	2 p.m. - Jef Sarver
• 18th Street	• Langel's Pizza	3 p.m. - Brad Kleinschmidt
• Greenbush	• Maria's Buena Cocina	4 p.m. - Fragile Soul
• Revolution		5 p.m. - Belladonna

Check Highland Redevelopment Commission's Facebook page or #LastCall4Summer for updates!

KIDS YOGA

Little yogis - ages 5-14 - will learn simple breathing techniques, yoga games/adventures, partner poses, songs/chants, crafts and relaxation. Children and young teens will find that yoga encourages self-esteem, concentration, body awareness and creativity with a physical activity that is non-competitive - fostering peace, stillness, cooperation and compassion instead of opposition. Please bring a towel, blanket or yoga mat.

WHEN: 5 to 5:55 p.m. Thursdays, **AUGUST 9 – SEPTEMBER 20**. Off September 6.

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

FEE: \$30 residents/ \$33 nonresidents

DROP-IN TRIAL: \$9 residents/ \$10 nonresidents

INFO: highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114

SWIM CLUB REGISTRATION

The Highland Hurricanes Swim Club, a competitive swim team for youth ages 5-18 in Highland and surrounding communities, is conducting swim assessments and registration for its 2018-2019 fall/winter season, which begins September 4. Birth certificate needed for registration. New members must bring a swimsuit and towel for in-water evaluation.

WHEN: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Monday, **AUGUST 27** and Thursday, **AUGUST 30**

WHERE: Highland High Natatorium located at 41st and 5th streets. Enter through door "P," across from the high school softball field.

FEE: Varies depending on age and level.

Payment plans are available.

INFO: (219) 595-9357 or highlandhurricanes.net